



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



Tennessee Farm Facts

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In Cooperation with Tennessee Department of Agriculture

Crop Production Milk Production Cotton Ginnings Prices Received

Grain Prices

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Acres Shifts and Weather Extremes Dominate 2007

A major shift in acreage for the state's major crops, along with several significant weather events, highlighted the story for Tennessee agriculture during 2007. Corn growers took advantage of higher prices driven by growing demand and planted the most acres in 20 years. This was done primarily at the expense of cotton and soybean acreage. A devastating Easter freeze followed by extreme to exceptional drought conditions across the State resulted in orchards being completely wiped-out and significant yield reductions in row crops. According to a recent survey conducted by USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service, Tennessee Field Office, all crops showed significant declines in yields from the previous year. Corn yields were down 19 bushels from last year and 21 bushels below the 5-year average. Soybean yields averaged less than half of the 2006 crop and were the lowest since 1983. Burley tobacco acreage continued to decline to near record low levels.

Tennessee's **cotton** production is estimated at 615,000 bales, down a whopping 55 percent from the record set in 2006 and the lowest since 1999. The State's final yield averaged 579 pounds of lint per acre, down 366 pounds from the previous year's record high. Producers planted 515,000 and harvested 510,000 acres, both down 185,000 from 2006. As of January 1, 2008, virtually all of the State's production had been ginned.

Corn for grain production is estimated at 83.2 million bushels, up 33 percent from 2006. The final yield, at 106 bushels per acre, was down 19 bushels from the year earlier and the lowest in 9 years. Tennessee corn producers planted 870,000 acres during 2007, up 320,000 from a year earlier. Harvested area for grain was 785,000 acres with 68,000 acres for silage. Silage yield, at 9.0 tons per acre, was down 7.0 tons from 2006 and the lowest since 1957. Silage production totaled 612,000 tons. Drought conditions and record high temperatures during the growing season affected development and caused rapid maturation. Grain **sorghum** production in 2007 is estimated at 1.33 million bushels, up 27 percent from 2006. Area harvested for grain, at 19,000 acres, was up 8,000 acres from 2006, while average yield, at 70 bushels per acre, was down 25 bushels from the year earlier.

Soybean production is estimated at 17.5 million bushels, down 60 percent from a year earlier and the lowest since 1965. This change marks the largest one year drop in production since records began in 1924.

The State's final soybean yield is estimated at 18 bushels per acre, down 21 bushels from the previous year and the lowest since 1983. Producers planted 1,040,000 acres and harvested 970,000 acres for beans, both down from the previous year. Drought conditions and record temperatures during the crucial period of pod development in August proved insurmountable for the crop.

Burley tobacco growers produced 20.8 million pounds, down nearly a third from 2006 and the lowest production since 1922. The State's final burley yields averaged 1,600 pounds per acre, down 600 pounds from a year earlier and the lowest since 1986. Growers harvested 13,000 acres, down 1,000 acres from the previous year and the lowest since 1921. Harvest of the crop was nearly wrapped-up by October 1, on pace with normal. Tennessee's dark fire-cured tobacco yields are estimated at 2,600 pounds, down 600 pounds from 2006. Dark air-cured yields are estimated at 2,200 pounds per acre, down 550 pounds from a year earlier.

Total **wheat** acreage for 2008 is forecast at 620,000 acres, up 200,000 acres or 48 percent from 2007. Winter wheat planting was underway by the last week of September with 6 percent of the crop seeded by October 1. By October 15, a fifth of the expected crop was sown, with farmers waiting on rain to help germination. Through November 19, over 90 percent of the winter wheat was sown and almost three-fourths had emerged, with 81 percent of the crop rated in good-to-excellent condition. Most farmers got their wheat in before rain made their fields to wet to plant, yet they got enough rain at the right time for seed germination.

Hay production, at 2.44 million tons, was down 43 percent from the 2006 crop. Hay acreage, at 1,725,000 acres, was down 6 percent from a year earlier. Alfalfa production, at 63,000 tons, was down 43 percent from 2006. Alfalfa producers harvested 25,000 acres with a yield of 2.50 tons per acre, down 1.20 tons from the previous year. Growers seeded 7,000 acres of alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures during 2007, up 3,000 from the year earlier. First, a dry end to 2006 and start to 2007 nearly wiped out hay stocks. Next, first cuttings in the spring were about 50 percent or less of normal due to the Easter freeze. Stocks of hay stored on Tennessee farms totaled 1.93 million tons on December 1, 2007, down 38 percent from 2006 and the lowest since 1984. Stocks represented 79 percent of this year's production, compared with 73 percent on December 1, 2006.

Crop Estimates: Tennessee and United States, Final 2007, with Comparisons

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Crop	Units	Harvested Acres		Yield Per Acre		Production	
		2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007
		Thousands		Number of Units		Thousands	
Tennessee							
Apples ¹	lb.	---	---	---	---	10,000	100
Corn for grain	bu.	500	785	125	106	62,500	83,210
Corn for silage	Ton	47	68	16	9	752	612
Cotton ²	lb.	695	510	945	579	1,368	615
Cottonseed	Ton	---	---	---	---	441	206
Hay, All	ton	1,830	1,725	2.32	1.42	4,251	2,443
Other	ton	1,800	1,700	2.30	1.40	4,140	2,380
Alfalfa	ton	30	25	3.70	2.50	111	63
Peaches ¹	ton	---	---	---	---	1.9	³
Sorghum for grain	bu.	11	19	95	70	1,045	1,330
Sorghum for silage	ton	2	2	19	9	38	18
Soybeans	bu.	1,130	970	39	18	44,070	17,460
Tobacco, All	lb.	19.80	19.98	2,482	1,934	49,135	38,636
Dark fire-cured	lb.	5.30	6.20	3,200	2,600	16,960	16,120
Burley	lb.	14.00	13.00	2,200	1,600	30,800	20,800
Dark air-cured	lb.	0.50	0.78	2,750	2,200	1,375	1,716
Winter Wheat	bu.	190	260	64	41	12,160	10,660
United States							
Apples ¹	lb.	---	---	---	---	9,931,700	9,254,700
Corn for grain	bu.	70,648	86,542	149.1	151.1	10,534,868	13,073,893
Corn for silage	ton	6,477	6,071	16.2	17.5	105,129	106,328
Cotton ²	lb.	12,731.5	10,492.2	814	871	21,587.8	19,033.0
Cottonseed	ton	---	---	---	---	7,347.9	6596.0
Hay, All	ton	60,927	61,625	2.34	2.44	142,336	150,304
Other	ton	39,493	39,955	1.78	1.95	70,330	77,729
Alfalfa	ton	21,434	21,760	3.36	3.35	72,006	72,575
Peaches ¹	ton	---	---	---	---	1,010.1	1,026.9
Sorghum for grain	bu.	4,937	6,805	56.2	74.2	277,538	504,993
Sorghum for silage	ton	347	399	13.4	15.6	4,642	6,206
Soybeans	bu.	74,602	62,820	42.7	41.2	3,188,247	2,585,207
Tobacco, All	lb.	339.0	356.0	2,146	2,187	727,347	778,624
Dark fire-cured	lb.	11.85	14.6	3,324	2,858	39,392	41,720
Burley	lb.	103.7	106.3	2,095	1,945	217,255	206,805
Dark air-cured	lb.	4.30	4.98	3,059	2,706	13,155	13,476
Winter Wheat	bu.	31,117	35,952	41.7	42.2	1,298,081	1,515,989

¹ Forecast. Preliminary final data to be released January 23, 2008. ² Production in 480-lb. net weight bales. U.S. production includes American-Pima cotton. ³ No significant commercial production due to freeze damage.

Milk Production

Milk production in **Tennessee** during the October-December quarter was 229 million pounds, down 19 million pounds from the October-December period the year earlier. The average number of milk cows in Tennessee during the quarter was 61,000 head, 5,000 head less than the same period in 2006.

U.S.: Milk production in the U.S. during the October - December quarter totaled 46.0 billion pounds, up 3.2 percent from the October - December quarter last year. The average number of milk cows in the U.S. during the quarter was 9.20 million head, 80,000 head more than the same period last year.

Quarterly Milk Production: Tennessee and United States, October-December 2006-2007

Item	Unit	Tennessee		United States	
		2006	2007	2006	2007
Milk cows on farms ¹	1,000 hd.	66	61	9,115	9,195
Milk production ²	Mil. lbs.	248	229	44,611	46,045

¹ Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh. ² Excludes milk sucked by calves.

Cotton Ginnings: Running Bales Ginned (Excluding Linters) Prior to January 1, Crop Years 2005-2008

	Running Bales Ginned			
	2005	2006	2007	2008
All Cotton				
AL	769,300	802,000	633,250	387,550
AZ	534,600	462,000	391,850	370,800
AR	2,006,500	2,098,650	2,410,000	1,809,400
CA	2,059,750	1,401,250	1,180,450	1,183,750
FL	91,700	111,200	139,650	101,700
GA	1,711,700	1,976,450	2,075,450	1,546,300
KS	18,300	70,400	78,400	40,600
LA	888,200	1,105,650	1,255,500	695,900
MS	2,263,700	2,089,000	2,029,000	1,271,150
MO	806,800	864,400	966,600	785,550
NM	55,050	60,350	46,800	46,700
NC	1,304,050	1,310,950	1,234,700	763,100
OK	219,950	267,500	165,000	264,850
SC	356,000	372,300	369,800	148,050
TN	947,150	1,082,400	1,265,750	586,600
TX	4,751,600	5,871,450	4,828,600	5,617,750
VA	140,400	161,600	140,150	95,900
US	18,924,750	20,107,550	19,211,850	15,715,650

U.S. Prices: The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in December, at 151 percent, based on 1990-92=100, increased 5 points (3.4 percent) from November. The Crop Index is up 10 points (6.5 percent) but the Livestock Index is unchanged. The All Farm Index and All Crop Index are at record highs. Producers received higher commodity prices for tomatoes, corn, soybeans, and wheat. Lower prices were received for oranges, turkeys, snap beans, and broilers. The overall index is also affected by the seasonal change based on a 3-year average mix of commodities producers sell. Increased average marketings of wheat, milk, oranges, and broilers offset decreased marketings of soybeans, cattle, corn, and grapes.

The preliminary All Farm Products Index is up 31 points (26 percent) from December 2006. The Food Commodities Index, at 158, increased 7 points (4.6 percent) from last month and increased 37 points (31 percent) from December 2006.

Prices Received by Farmers: Tennessee & U.S., December 2007 with Comparisons

Commodity	Unit	Tennessee			United States		
		December 2006	November ¹ 2007	December ² 2007	December 2006	November ¹ 2007	December ² 2007

Dollars Per Unit

Field Crops

Corn	bu.	3.40	3.92	4.40	3.01	3.43	3.88
Cotton Lint	lb.	.499	.544	.543 ³	.490	.570	.572 ³
Sorghum	cwt.	6.54	⁴	n/a	6.09	6.26	6.90
Soybeans	bu.	6.60	9.99	10.70	6.18	9.41	10.40
Winter Wheat	bu.	4.71	6.86	n/a	4.53	7.32	9.22

Livestock

All beef cattle	cwt.	69.20	71.80	72.40	83.10	89.70	89.10
Steers/heifers	cwt.	88.00	91.00	92.00	89.00	95.90	95.50
Cows	cwt.	41.00	43.00	43.00	42.20	43.90	44.10
Calves	cwt.	102.00	101.00	102.00	116.00	119.00	119.00

¹ Entire month. ² Mid-month. ³ Based on purchases first half of month. ⁴ Prices not published to avoid disclosure of individual firms. n/a = not available.

Grain Stocks: Tennessee and U.S., December 1, 2006-2007 with Comparisons

	Tennessee			United States		
	Dec 1, 2006	Sept 1, 2007	Dec 1, 2007	Dec 1, 2006	Sept 1, 2007	Dec 1, 2007
	1,000 Bushels					
On-Farm Stocks ¹						
Corn				5,627,000	460,100	6,530,000
Wheat				403,250	495,000	289,540
Soybeans				1,461,000	143,000	1,100,000
Grain Sorghum				38,100	2,150	51,400
Oats				53,000	53,650	43,100
Off-Farm Stocks ²						
Corn	14,331	1,786	21,955	3,305,707	843,547	3,738,599
Wheat	8,248	9,682	8,388	911,408	1,221,927	838,371
Soybeans	10,104	118	6,374	1,240,366	430,810	1,229,405
Grain Sorghum	³	³	³	174,094	29,903	238,302
Oats	86	69	50	45,889	34,710	51,370
Total Stocks ¹						
Corn				8,932,707	1,303,647	10,268,599
Wheat				1,314,658	1,716,927	1,127,911
Soybeans				2,701,366	573,810	2,329,405
Grain Sorghum				212,194	32,053	289,702
Oats				98,889	88,360	94,470

¹ Estimates for Tennessee on-farm stocks are not published. ² Includes stocks at mills, elevators, warehouses, terminals, and processors. ³ Not published to avoid disclosures of individual operations.